

What is claimed is:

1. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent that contains an interleukin-6 (IL-6) antagonist as its active ingredient.
- 5 2. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to claim 1 wherein, the mesothelioma is pleural mesothelioma.
3. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to claim 2 wherein, the pleural mesothelioma is malignant
10 pleural mesothelioma.
4. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to any of claims 1 through 3 wherein, the IL-6 antagonist is antibody to IL-6 receptor.
5. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to
15 claim 4 wherein, the antibody to IL-6 receptor is monoclonal antibody to IL-6 receptor.
6. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to claim 4 wherein, the antibody to IL-6 receptor is monoclonal antibody to human IL-6 receptor.
- 20 7. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to claim 4 wherein, the antibody to IL-6 receptor is monoclonal antibody to mouse IL-6 receptor.
8. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to any of claims 4 through 7 wherein, the antibody to IL-6
25 receptor is recombinant antibody.
9. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to claim 6 wherein, the monoclonal antibody to human IL-6 receptor is PM-1 antibody.
10. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to
30 claim 7 wherein, the monoclonal antibody to mouse IL-6 receptor is MR16-1 antibody.
11. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to any of claims 4 through 10 wherein, the antibody to IL-6
35 receptor is chimeric antibody, humanized antibody or human antibody.
12. A mesothelioma therapeutic agent according to claim 11 wherein, the humanized antibody to IL-6 receptor

is humanized PM-1 antibody.

13. A growth inhibitor against mesothelioma cells that contains an interleukin-6 (IL-6) antagonist as its active ingredient.

5 14. A growth inhibitor according to claim 13 wherein, the mesothelioma is pleural mesothelioma.

15. A growth inhibitor according to claim 14 wherein, the pleural mesothelioma is malignant pleural mesothelioma.

10 16. A growth inhibitor according to any of claims 13 through 15 wherein, the IL-6 antagonist is antibody to IL-6 receptor.

15 17. A growth inhibitor according to claim 16 wherein, the antibody to IL-6 receptor is monoclonal antibody to IL-6 receptor.

18. A growth inhibitor according to claim 16 wherein, the antibody to IL-6 receptor is monoclonal antibody to human IL-6 receptor.

20 19. A growth inhibitor according to claim 16 wherein, the antibody to IL-6 receptor is monoclonal antibody to mouse IL-6 receptor.

20. A growth inhibitor according to any of claims 16 through 19 wherein, the antibody to IL-6 receptor is recombinant antibody.

25 21. A growth inhibitor according to claim 18 wherein, the monoclonal antibody to human IL-6 receptor is PM-1 antibody.

30 22. A growth inhibitor according to claim 19 wherein, the monoclonal antibody to mouse IL-6 receptor is MR16-1 antibody.

23. A growth inhibitor according to any of claims 16 through 22 wherein, the antibody to IL-6 receptor is chimeric antibody, humanized antibody or human antibody.

35 24. A growth inhibitor according to claim 23 wherein, the humanized antibody to IL-6 receptor is humanized PM-1 antibody.